



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

FEB 16 2001

Christopher Mantzaris
Assistant Regional Administrator for
Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Region
1 Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930

RE: Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Mantzaris:

This letter is intended to reinitiate informal consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, to determine whether there are any federally-listed or proposed threatened or endangered species or critical habitats present on or in the vicinity of the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site, located between River Miles 153.9 to 197.3 in New York State. I have enclosed the December 2000 Proposed Plan prepared for the site, which includes maps of the affected area, for your review.

In compliance with the mandate of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, EPA is requesting a written statement from you indicating whether the preferred remedy may result in impacts to the shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) or its critical habitats, and whether any additional consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is required.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please have your staff contact Steven Ferreira of my staff at (212) 637-3759. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Grace Musumeci, Chief
Environmental Review Section
Strategic Planning and Multi-Media Programs Branch

Enclosure

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